

# News Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Effective July 15, 2003

## **OHV Registration Guidelines to be Strictly Enforced At State Vehicular Recreation Areas**

SACRAMENTO -- Effective July 15, 2003, Red Sticker registration requirements will be strictly enforced for all off-highway motorcycles and all-terrain vehicles operated at all State Vehicular Recreation Areas (SVRAs), officials announced today.

"These guidelines give us the elements that are necessary to facilitate enforcement in OHV riding areas," said Tony Perez, chief of the Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation (OHMVR) Division of California State Parks. "It will also bring clarity to owners, and give both riders and the agencies involved a fresh start in implementing this important air quality-related program."

At issue are the two different types of identification decals that are issued by the Department of Motor Vehicles to most off-highway vehicles -- either a Green Sticker or a Red Sticker -- depending on the manufacturer's certification to California Air Resources Board emission standards.

Because of the confusion as to which vehicles required which stickers, many vehicles were issued the wrong one. That often resulted in different owners of the same identical OHV receiving different stickers, and made it difficult for law enforcement agencies to enforce registration laws. To rectify the problem, and to start with a clean slate, the DMV will provide Green Stickers to all 2002 model year and older OHVs, regardless of emission standards. Thus, the DMV is notifying all owners that the type of registration sticker to be issued this year may be different than the one previously issued.

The OHV registration requirements are:

- All 2002 model year and older OHVs, regardless of emission standards, will be issued a Green Sticker, including those OHVs previously issued a Red Sticker.
- Those 2002 model year and older OHVs with a 2004 expiration on their Red Sticker will automatically be issued a replacement 2004 Green Sticker through the mail, while OHVs

with a Red Sticker expiring in 2003 will be issued a Green Sticker only after paying registration renewal fees to the DMV.

- Green Stickers will be issued to all 2003 model year and newer OHVs that are certified by their manufacturer to meet California's OHV emission standards. These OHVs may be operated year-round at all California OHV riding areas.
- Red Stickers will be issued to all 2003 model year and newer OHVs that are not certified to California OHV emission standards. Owners will be issued a Red Sticker if the vehicle is a 2003 model year or newer vehicle, and there is a "C" or "3" in the eighth digit of the vehicle's VIN.

Riding OHVs with a Red Sticker may be seasonal, depending on the area to be visited. A list of seasonal riding periods is available from the Air Resources Board at (800) 242-4450, or on the web at <http://www.ohv.parks.ca.gov>

The SVRAs are owned and operated by California State Parks and its OHMVR Division. They are typically located just outside urban fringes, and serve populations in surrounding counties. California's SVRAs have a total of roughly 100,000 acres. OHV funding provides for staffing, resource protection, and maintenance of the park and land purchases.

The six main SVRAs include Carnegie, Hollister Hills, Hungry Valley, Ocotillo Wells, Oceano Dunes and Prairie City.

Further information may be obtained by contacting Jess Cooper or Tom Bernardo at the OHMVR Division at (916) 324-4442.

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